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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/575,234 | 06/22/2006 | Romain Desplats | 0512-1333 | 6983 |
| 466 | 7590 | 08/21/2007 | EXAMINER | |
| YOUNG & THOMPSON | | | AURORA, REENA | |
| 745 SOUTH 23RD STREET | | | | |
| 2ND FLOOR | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
| ARLINGTON, VA 22202 | | | 2862 | |
| | | | MAIL DATE | DELIVERY MODE |
| | | | 08/21/2007 | PAPER |

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

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|------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
| | 10/575,234 | DESPLATS ET AL. | |
| | Examiner | Art Unit | |
| | Reena Aurora | 2862 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1 - 11 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1 - 11 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 07 April 2006 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>04/07/06</u> . | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

Claim 9 is objected to because of the following informalities: line 2, the phrase "the ratio" lacks antecedent basis. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1 - 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Acker (6,427,314).

As to claim 1, Acker discloses a magnetic position and orientation determining system comprising axis characterized in that it comprises at least two magnetoresistive or magnetoinductive sensors (252) which are rigidly connected to each other in a position such that their selected measurement axes are parallel and offset relative to each other in a transverse direction relative to their selected measurement axes, and in that the probe comprises output terminals (256) which are specific to each magnetoresistive or magnetoinductive sensor (252) in order to provide a signal which is

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representative of the magnetic field measured by each sensor along the selected measurement axis thereof (Note fig. 9; col. 23, lines 33 - 49).

As to claims 2 - 7, Acker discloses a magnetic position and orientation determining system comprising at least two pairs of magnetoresistive or magnetoinductive sensors (252, 266, 258), the sensors of each same pair having their selected measurement axes parallel and offset relative to each other in a transverse direction relative to their selected measurement axes and the selected measurement axes of the sensors of two separate pairs are angularly offset (Note fig. 9 and 10).

As to claims 8 – 11, Acker discloses a magnetic position and orientation determining system comprising processing chain which is specific to each magnetoresistive or magnetoinductive sensor (252) and means (256) for processing the signals from the various processing chains, which processing means are suitable for evaluating the ratio of the difference between the field values measured by two magnetoresistive or magnetoinductive sensors having selected measurement axes which are parallel and which are offset transversely relative to each other at the distance separating the two magnetoresistive or magnetoinductive sensors (Note fig. 9; col. 23, lines 33 - 49).

Prior Art of Record

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

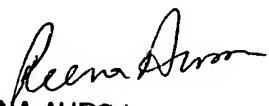
Koerner et al. (5,519318) is cited for its disclosure of a magnetic sensing apparatus.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Reena Aurora whose telephone number is 571-272-2263. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 7:00 - 3:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, P. Assouad can be reached on 571-272-2210. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Reena Aurora


REENA AURORA
PRIMARY EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER